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OCEANICA NO. 8

Yokohama, Japan, Dec. 8, 1919.
Editor News:

We left Manila, P. I., on the 29th of November for Yokohama, Shanghai and Vladivostok. On December 4th we arrived in Tokyo Bay and anchored at the city of Yokohama.

On entering the bay our first sight of the "Sunrise Kingdom" was Mt. Fujiyama, which was when first sighted, some forty miles away. It is snow-capped the year around.

Mt. Fujiyama is 12,365 feet in height, and may be climbed with ease. It is said that the record time was made by an Englishman. This was eight hours. This volcanic peak is said to represent the Japanese people, warm of heart and cool of head. Tradition also has it that the mountain arose overnight in 286 B. C., and at the same time Lake Biwa was formed.

Next of interest was our trip ashore. We were met at the dock by some 100 Japnikisha, which is the Japanese method of travelling. They travel at a pace that kills, as it is so uniform that it gives an American the jim-jamies. It takes a good pair of legs and a stout heart to be a Rickshaw man, as the country is so level and competition is so keen. The price is seventy sen per hour, or 35c. You see, Japanese money comes as follows: one yen, 50c. This is divided into one hundred parts called sen, one-half cent. Most of the money is in paper and is as follows, 5, 10, 20 and 50 sen.

Yokohama impresses the sailor far better than any American port. Cleanliness is the object of the Japs' ambition and they have attained a point far ahead of any of the twelve foreign countries I have seen.

The main streets are typical American and most of the firms are British or American. More foreigners are in this city than any other Japanese city. The population is 480,000.

The Knights of Columbus had a special program arranged and on Saturday we boarded an English-looking passenger train for the sacred island of Fujiyama. Atoshima and Kamakura, some ten miles out. We arrived here at 10 a. m. and began our tour of inspection. The island is about 1 1/2 miles in diameter and rises 240 feet from the water's edge.

The most picturesque spot is the dragon, known from its shape, the length is 370 feet. The dragon which lived devoured many of the neighboring children, but this practice ceased when the Goddess Benton, in her anger, descended and married the dragon. It is said that lovers who visit this place, cease to care for one another before the end of the year.

From here we go by electric car to Kamakura, the capitol of the Japanese shogun, or king. In 1648 the capitol was moved to Tokyo, from that day the city has declined until now only a few houses remain. The city is visited by thousands of tourists to see the Buddha god, known as the Darbutsu, and is the likeness of Amida, the Jap's favorite god.

This huge statue of bronze was cast in 1252 and is 50 feet high. The eyes are eight feet long. Japs approach the image

with quite a bit of ceremony. After having our pictures made we journeyed back to Yokohama to spend the rest of the day as we liked. Some ate, others danced, some drank while the more serious ones visited important places of the town. I went to the theatre but understood nothing. Next I saw the "Geisha girls" dance and found it better entertainment.

I leave Japan, thinking it to be the next best country I have visited. Of course Scotland will always hold first place. Several of the boys have little Japanese sweethearts and they are, as a whole, very beautiful women and know the secret of keeping young.

J. D. CONDRA,
Ph. M. I. U. S. N.
U. S. S. "So. Dakota,"
Care P. M., San Francisco.

MR. AND MRS. WALKER NOW IN TEXAS

Editor News:

We left Harrison on the evening of Feb. 6th, went to Seligman, Mo., that evening, and was transferred the T. P. R. R. about 9 p. m., on that train all night, traveled about three hundred miles thru Oklahoma, bought our ticket to Teague, Tex., via Dallas, arrived at Dallas at 9:30 a. m. to find our train had left for Teague about five minutes. When we inquired when we could get a train to Teague they said we could not get a train on that road until 8:30 p. m., bad to have to wait so long. So we found if we stayed there until 8:30 p. m. that would put us off in Waxahatchie about 9 or 10 p. m. So we took the Interurban to Waxahatchie and got there before night. Left next morning for Teague, the place our ticket called for and found one of R. P. Beene's sons lived at Streetman, 18 miles north of Teague, and the conductor was kind enough to let us off there.

We found we could reach R. P. Beene, my wife's brother, by telephone, and found J. L. Beene was there. So they both came to Streetman and accompanied us to Teague. Met G. K. Beene, another brother, and could not get around going home with him, stayed with him Monday and Tuesday night. He lives at Freestone, that being on our way to Houston, arrived here at 7:30 p. m., everything looks so spring-like we may locate here or near here. J. L. Beene came here with us.

We both feel the trip is agreeing with us fine. What I have seen of the town is very nice, one of the finest court houses I ever saw, built of the finest brick and marble, marble stairway and marble columns.

Will give my address in a few days so we may hear from any of our friends who may want to write to us.

M. E. WALKER,
Houston, Tex., Feb. 12, 1920.

A. E. Bowers, representing the Standard Circulation Co., of Ogden, Utah, was here Thursday in the interest of his company. He saw service in France but survived battle only to lose a hand in a munition plant on this side.

Boost your home paper.

FAMOUS JASPER S. S. CLASS

How Its Memory Reigns In
The Hearts of Members,
Past and Present.

Editor News:

In your last week's issue I read a letter from your optimistic correspondent, "Lone Star," which calls me back through memory's channels a few decades. This Texas "Quill Pusher," is a veritable apostle of sunshine and happy effusions. His spicy articles, though from a far distant state, are always interesting and are read by a large circle of people. He could not well be otherwise than a philosopher of happiness and sunshine, for whoever saw a bald-headed man that was of a morose temperment. Ever since we could well remember this gentleman of East Tennessee birth has been devoid a hair-suit on his top-piece.

In reply to his reference in his recent article to Class No. 13 of the C. P. Church, at Jasper, I will now turn my attention. Will say for his pleasure and information that old No. 13 is still alive and loved and revered by its members. To "Lone Star" we will say, there are four boys yet in the class that were classmates of his when he was a resident of Jasper. I say "boys," for these men are still young in spirit. They are W. J. J. Hoge, R. H. Price, E. Harned and G. W. Brewer. The class is conducted and most ably instructed by Prof. T. A. Hackworth, of our high school here. "Lone Star" makes reference to the founder of this class, Mr. S. B. Deakins, whose love of church and Sunday school work is known to many. It is beyond the power of this humble writer to inscribe a fitting tribute in the way of a eulogy to this grand old man who years ago passed to his reward.

Suffice it to say, the fruits of his love, labors and influence are still dominant in the Sunday school here today. One befitting structure to his memory is Sam Deakins, the second. The ancient proverb here asserts itself, "Like father, like son." He, like his father, is a great lover of church and Sunday school. For the past five years he has been superintendent of the C. P. Sunday school. He is a young man whose aim is for the betterment of mankind. He is aggressive in spirit and of that indomitable will and spirit of kindness of his good old father we all knew in the long, long ago.

Although we were mere youngsters when "Lone Star" was a member of Class No. 13, yet we well remember him and wish he would return and fall into his accustomed place in the class again. Time has wrought many changes in the years that have come and gone. Many familiar faces have left us and crossed into the great beyond, but the memory and spirit of their influence still lingers with us. To "Lone Star" we would again say, we have a splendid Sunday school, one that is alive, wide-awake, progressive and full of spirit and hope for a happy future. We are ever alert to bring about changes. We were put here by the All-wise Creator for a purpose and that purpose is to change the world from a sphere of grief and sorrow to a world of happiness and christian spirit. We sincerely trust that you are doing your bit in your state of adoption in

this one respect.

With best wishes to you,
A Member of Class No. 13.
Jasper, Tenn., Feb. 12, 1920.

Paris, Texas

Special to the News.

I guess it is time to get started on my communication to the News. I never like to be late, as the last day or so before going to press is the busiest time with the editor.

I have been busy preparing garden ground and planting flower seeds, but it came a rain and I have not got to plant any garden yet. I will plant some about Monday. I think the ground will be dry enough by that time. I am going to try to raise enough for my own use. My garden is only about twelve by sixty feet across the back yard. It will not take much for us as there are only four of us. I have lots of time to raise a good garden if I don't get lazy. It gets hot in May and June and I am awfully afraid of sunstroke.

I noticed mention of seven elderly gentlemen who were seen on the streets of Jasper a few days ago. I was of the opinion that three of the seven were dead. One hardly ever sees a bunch of men of their age gathered together in social conversation. I am glad to know that they are all living and brisk and able to get around and meet and converse with their friends at that age. I once knew them all. I would like to meet all of them before we are called to try an unknown world.

Well, "Lonely Girl," of Marionville, I am sorry for you. Anyone that is lonely has my sympathy. I don't think one who can write as good letters as you can get much lonesome. Just write a good long letter to the News every week and you will not get much lonesome.

"Old Maid," of Soddy, I don't like your name. It sounds too much like some has neglected their duty. However, we appreciate your letters to the News and hope to see more of them. I like to see many letters in the News so that I can hear from places that I would otherwise never get to hear from.

Spring will soon be here, and vegetation will be growing and the birds singing and the fish biting. Then life will be worth living. I am getting wild. I guess I had better quit for this time.

Lone Star.

LARGEST PAYROLL IN HISTORY OF JASPER

Jasper, Feb. 16.—The Pryor Hosiery Mill had its first payday Saturday and \$600 was distributed among its employees. This, with \$300 paid its employees by the Pryor Garage, made a \$900 payroll, which was the largest in the history of the town. Mr. A. R. Pryor, who is leader in these movements, is devoting all his energies to building up the town.

The News, \$1.50 per year.



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MARION COUNTY TEACHERS MEET

Interesting Session Held At
Jasper Saturday.—Next
One At So. Pittsburg

The teachers of Marion County held their regular monthly meeting in the High School auditorium at Jasper Saturday. The attendance was good, but not as large as at previous meetings, owing to a number of the schools closing and the teachers being otherwise engaged.

The meeting was conducted by Prof. D. A. Tate, county superintendent, who impressed a person as having the interests of the county schools thoroughly at heart. He emphasized the necessity of protecting the property of the schools and urged the teachers to be more careful in the future in doing so. He recommended that the teachers have their pupils take part in the National Essay contest, in which the children of the county are offered free trips to Washington with their parents for the best essays on the advantage to be derived from enlistment in the army.

The program presented in the News recently was given under direction of Bill Tate, son of Prof. Tate, who is chairman of the organization. The hymn, "Come, Thou Almighty King," was sung by the assembly. Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. Stewart, of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, So. Pittsburg, who read from the 119th Psalm, and made a short address from the words of Solomon, "Where there is no vision, a people perish," closing with prayer.

Minutes of preceding meeting were read by the secretary, Miss May Lasater, and adopted. Prof. Tate spoke on the value of athletic training in the schools, giving some of his own ideas for the physical development of the child, and urging the teachers to do all in their power to send their pupils forth from under their training strong in body as well as mind. He was followed by Prof. Tallant, of the Richard City school, who spoke along the same lines, and Prof. Dixon, of

the So. Pittsburg High School, whose address on the "Virtue of Hygiene and Exercises," was in the same train of thought.

Miss Nell Leland, teacher in the local school, gave a very delightful solo, "I'm Lonesome for You," which was so well received that an encore was demanded, for which she sang, "Who Knows". Miss Leland has a very sweet voice, and accompanied by her brother, piano, and Miss Thirza Taylor, violin, her numbers were excellent. Addresses by members of the school board were called for, Mr. Allen, of Battle Creek, responding.

Miss Thirza Taylor, teacher in the Whitwell school, gave a beautiful violin solo, "The Shepherd Boy," accompanied by Joe Leland, piano, and was followed by Miss Jennie Harris, who has been a successful teacher of the primary pupils in the Sequatchie school for a number of years, who gave some of her ideas as to how the small children should be taught.

The debate, "Resolved that Tennessee should levy a school tax sufficient to run all the schools of the state, both municipal and county, nine months in the year" was next on program and Bill Tate, first speaker on the affirmative, gave an excellent address. He is a "chip off the old block," as the saying is, and like his father puts vim and enthusiasm into all he attempts to do. As the other speakers were either absent or declined to take part, Prof. Tate attempted to take the negative side of the but he was obviously so much in favor of the affirmative that his argument was principally on that side, and the question was dismissed without further discussion.

Awarding pay cheques was next in order and seemed an intensely interesting event to the teachers present.

The next teachers' meeting will be held at So. Pittsburg, Saturday, March 13.

D. M. Tate, of South Pittsburg, who is teaching at the Stanley schoolhouse on Tennessee river, but whose address is North Chattanooga, subscribes for the News for six months. He does not get his mail more than once a week, and when he does get it, it looks good to him.

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